

Personality Development

- Major factors affect the development of personality.
- A person's behavior and personality are the result of his or her social environment and learning



What is personality?

- Common answer
 - Characteristics of a person
 - Nice
 - Good looking
 - Social skills
 - Polite
 - funny

What is personality?

- Sociologists say
 - Sum total of behaviors, attitude, beliefs, and values that are characteristic of an individual.
- Personality traits
 - Determine how we adjust
 - To our environment
 - How we react in specific situations

Personalities over time

- Personalities constantly change during the first half of a person's life.
 - Find new interests
 - Like new things
- Personalities change for all sorts of reasons
 - 2 largest reasons
 - Nature
 - Nurture

Nature

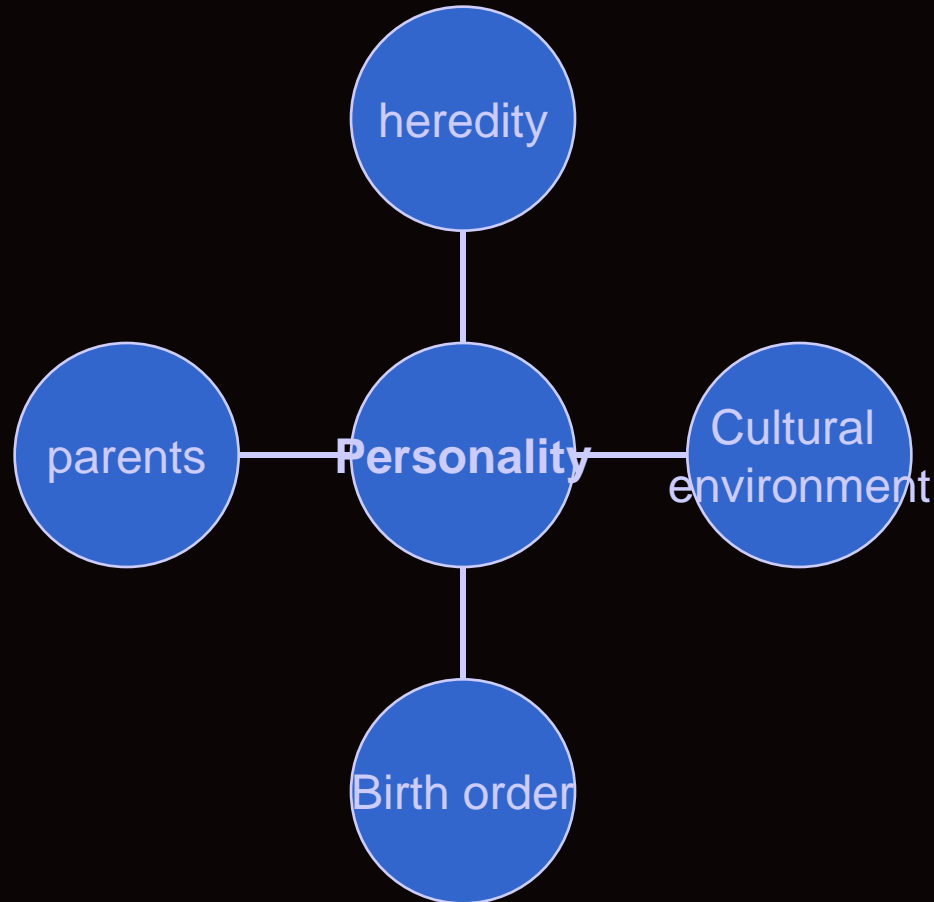
- Heredity
 - The transmission of genetic characteristics from parents to children.
- Social environment
 - Contact with other people



Nature's Argument

- Most human behavior is instinct in origin.
 - **Instinct**
 - an unchanging, biologically inherited behavior pattern.
 - Birds = building nests
 - Birds = migrate in winter
 - This leads to humans having 10,000 instincts:
 - Laugh
 - Smile
 - breath

4 major factors that shape individual personality development



Heredity

- Characteristics present at birth.
 - Body build
 - Hair type
 - Eye color
 - Skin pigmentation
 - **Aptitudes**
 - A capacity to learn a particular skill or acquire a particular body of knowledge.
 - Natural talents
 - Sports
 - Music



Birth Order

- Personalities are influenced by whether we have siblings:
- 1st born
 - Achievement oriented
- Middle child
 - More affectionate but confused
- Last child
 - Risk takers
 - Intellectual rebels



Parental Characteristics

- A parents personality directly impacts a child's personality
 - Hate
 - Anger
 - Happiness
 - politeness



Cultural Environment

- Cultural environment determines
 - Basic types of personalities found in society.
- USA
 - Competitiveness
 - Assertiveness
 - individualism
- China
 - Competitiveness
 - Family oriented
 - Group oriented